

In re Patent Application of:  
**TOWNSEND ET AL.**  
Serial No. 10/582,817  
Filed: June 14, 2006

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In the Abstract:

Please replace the Abstract with the following:

An automated pallet inspection and repair apparatus ~~comprises~~ includes an inspection station and a repair station. The inspection station ~~comprises~~ includes a laser that illuminates a pallet, a camera that collects the reflected light and a computer system. The computer system ~~analyses~~ analyzes the output of the camera and acquires the pallet's geometry and topography. The design of the pallet is determined by the computer software. A decision to repair the pallet is made by comparing the acquired pallet data against the design criteria. If the pallet needs repair, a recipe of repair steps is constructed by inspecting each of the pallet's elements. The recipe is transmitted to the automated repair station.